

to God: what dutie to the Prince whome they ought to loue & reuerence as the vicar of God: what they owe to the lawes, what to the magistrates, what to their brethren, what to the people of God: they shall be ready in the church straight after noone, euery soday & holyday, & there at the least, they shall read two houres, and teach the catechisme, and therein shall instruct all theyr flocke, of what age or degree soeuer, not onely maydens and children, but also the elder, if neede be. But especially they shall warne young folkes, not onely men, but also women, that it is prouided by the lawes, that none of them may either receiue the holy communion, or be married, or vndertake for a childe in Baptisme, except befoze, they haue learned the principles of Christen religion, and can fitly and aptly aunswere to all the partes of the Catechisme.

But if the parsons, vicars, or curates, either can not preache, or haue not receiued licence to preach of the Bysshop, yet they shall teach children to read, to write, and know theyr duty toward God, toward theyr parentes, and also others: and if they perceauie any of them to be of that disposition, that by teachyng and instruction, they may attayne to the knowledge of learnyng, they shall counsell theyr parentes, to set them to schole, that beyng endewed wyth learnyng, they may one day become fit for the holy ministry of the mighty God: but whome they perceauie to be duller, and not disposed to lear-

learnynge, to see them set to some other science, or to husbandrie.

They shall also warne their parishioners, that for great and weightie causes it was appointed in the couocation by the Reuerend father in God, Matthew Archbysshop of Canturburie, and the other bishops, that children may not, without consent of the parentes, and that no young man hath power in hymselfe to contract mariage, befoze he be xviij. yeares of age, and no mayde befoze she be xiiij. yeares olde.

Churchwardens and and syde men.

Churchwardens according to the custome of euery parishe, shalbe chosen by the consent of theyr parishioners, and theyr minister: otherwise they shall not be churchwardens: neyther shall they continew any lenger then one yeare in that office, except perhaps they be chosen againe. And all churchwardens once euery yeare shal geue by iust accounte of such money, as they haue receaued: and also particularly shall shewe, what coste they haue bestowed in reparations, and for the vse of the Church. Last of all goyng out of their offices, they shall truly deliuer by to the parishioners, what soeuer money, or other ecclesiasticall thinges shall remayne, & be in their handes, that it may be redeliuered by them to the next churchwardens.

C. i.

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